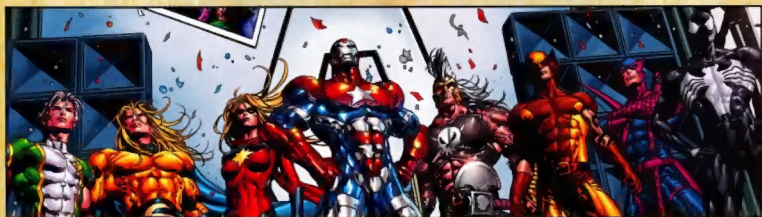


DARK WOLVERINE



Years ago, the mutant known as Wolverine found peace in Japan, and had a son with his wife, Itsu Akihiro. The peace was short-lived—Itsu was murdered and Wolverine believed his son died with her...but the boy lived.

Like his father, the son possessed enhanced senses, a powerful healing factor, and razor-sharp claws on each hand. As he grew, he blamed his father for his mother's death, and this resentment consumed him. He became known by the name he was taunted with as a child: the Japanese term for "mongrel," Daken.

In recent months, Norman Osborn, the former costumed villain known as the Green Goblin, has taken the moniker Iron Patriot and become the Director of the U.S. government's espionage strike-team, H.A.M.M.E.R., as well as leader of its super hero team, the Avengers. Osborn populates the Avengers with powered beings Osborn feels he can trust along with a host of super villains posing as established heroes and Daken...as a dark Wolverine.

But Daken is far from a team player and has been secretly manipulating Osborn and his teammates to his own mysterious ends. Not only that, but video footage of Daken slaughtering masked assailants in front of a grandmother and her grandson has just been brought to Norman's attention. Osborn, wishing to maintain a pristine public image, suppresses the video's distribution and warns Daken that unsanctioned violent behavior will not be tolerated...

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DON'T I
ALWAYS?

SO, WHAT IS
IT? ALIENS POISED
TO INCINERATE THE
EARTH? X-MEN DRUNK
IN THE LOBBY?
FLYING
MONKEYS?

SIR, YOU
SHOULD CHECK
YOUR EMAIL. THERE'S
A LINK, A VIDEO WE
ONLY JUST FOUND IT,
BUT OUR TECHS SAY IT'S
BEEN AVAILABLE FOR
MOST OF THE NIGHT.
THEY'RE TRYING TO
CONTAIN IT, BUT BY
THEIR ESTIMATES...



...IT'S ALREADY
BEEN VIEWED BY
OVER A MILLION
PEOPLE.

TOO STUPID
TO LIVE, SO I
GUESS IT'S
YOUR TURN.



BRACE
YOURSELF.

THIS TAPE
WAS **CLASSIFIED**.
NO ONE...NO ONE BUT
ME...WAS TO HAVE
ACCESS TO IT.

I WANT
TO KNOW
WHERE IT CAME
FROM.

I WANT
TO KNOW WHO
IS RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE LEAK.



FOUND SOMETHING. THE VIDEO WAS UPLOADED TO THE INTERNET FROM A PUBLIC COMPUTER.

HERE. IN NEW YORK CITY.

I WANT THE SURVEILLANCE RECORDS OF THAT SPOT AT THAT MOMENT.

GOT IT. WE HAVE HIS FACE. I'M ALERTING LOCAL AUTHORITIES NOW.

CALL HIM A TERRORIST. THAT SHOULD GET THEIR ATTENTION.

Personnel: Yes...
Lynch



I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS ON THE DISK. MAN, CHICK JUST HANDED IT TO ME. GAVE ME CASH TO PUT IT ON THE NET.

DESCRIBE HER. GIVE US EVERYTHING.

BLONDE. GORGEOUS. BREASTS LIKE TORPEDOES, BUT NERVOUS. NOT TOO SMART. SAW INSIDE HER PURSE... JUST FOR A SECOND...



HE SAW PART OF A NAME ON A CREDIT CARD. FIRST NAME, ROBERT. THREE LETTERS. D-E-V. MAYBE A HUSBAND'S CARD. COULD BE A BOYFRIEND. RUN THE SEARCH.

ALREADY DID. FOUND A LOT OF POSSIBILITIES, BUT ONLY ONE OF THEM IS A JOURNALIST.

NOT MARRIED.

BUT THERE'S A PICTURE ON THE INTERNET OF HIM. WITH A WOMAN.



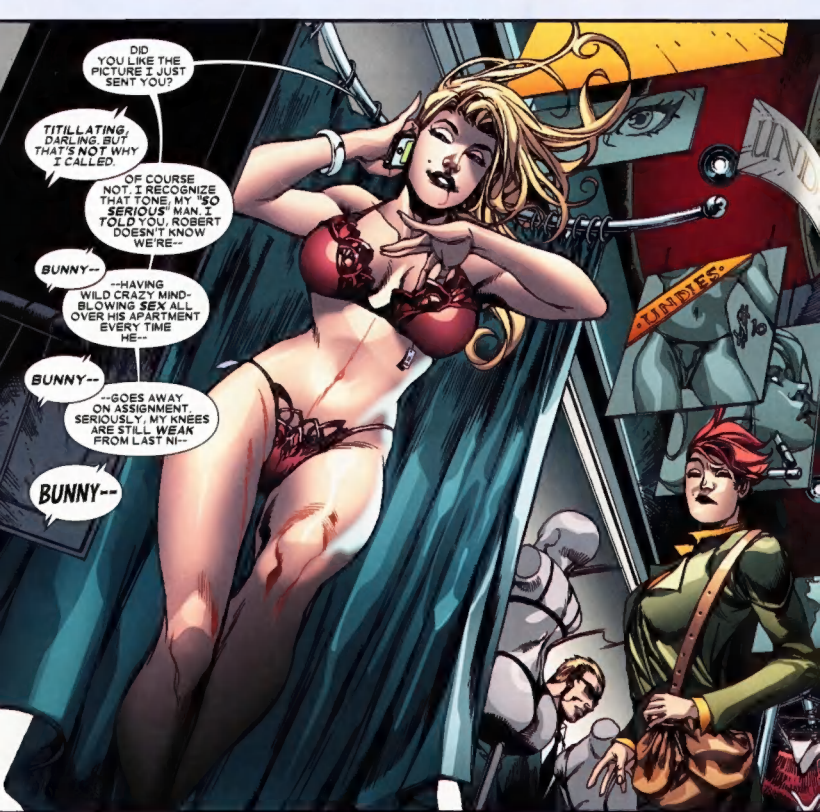
CONFIRM THAT SHE'S THE SAME PERSON WHO APPROACHED THE TEEN. IF SHE IS, THEN FIND HER, AND LOCATE THE MAN.



USE EXTREME CAUTION.



WE NEED THEM ALIVE.



DID YOU LIKE THE PICTURE I JUST SENT YOU?

TITILLATING, DARLING. BUT THAT'S NOT WHY I CALLED.

OF COURSE NOT. I RECOGNIZE THAT TONE, MY "SO SERIOUS" MAN. I TOLD YOU, ROBERT DOESN'T KNOW WE'RE--

BUNNY--

--HAVING WILD CRAZY MIND-BLOWING SEX ALL OVER HIS APARTMENT EVERY TIME HE--

BUNNY--

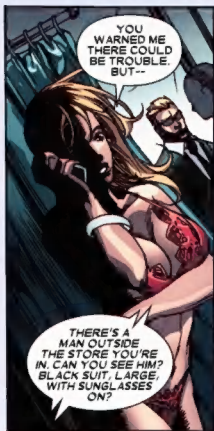
--GOES AWAY ON ASSIGNMENT. SERIOUSLY, MY KNEES ARE STILL WEAK FROM LAST NI--

BUNNY--



SHUT UP, AND LISTEN.

THERE'S A PROBLEM, LIKE WE TALKED ABOUT. DO YOU REMEMBER?



YOU WARNED ME THERE COULD BE TROUBLE. BUT--

THERE'S A MAN OUTSIDE THE STORE YOU'RE IN. CAN YOU SEE HIM? BLACK SUIT, LARGE, WITH SUNGLASSES ON?



HE'S THERE TO ARREST YOU.



AND YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO BEAUTIFUL WOMEN IN PRISON.







CAN'T
BE TOO
CAREFUL.

WHAT
A SWEET
BOY.

I'M SURE
EVERYONE
TELLS YOU
THAT.

OH.

YOU'D BE
SURPRISED.

MY HERO

PART ONE

WAS SHE
WARNED? IS THAT
WHY SHE RAN?

YOU'RE
CERTAIN?

MR. DEVON IS
IN IRAN, WE'VE
BEEN MONITORING
HIS CALLS.

WE'VE BEEN
UNABLE TO LOCATE
THE PERSON WITH
WHOM MS. BRENNAN
WAS SPEAKING, BUT
BASED ON THE PICTURE
THAT WAS SENT FROM
HER PHONE, WE HAVE
REASON TO BELIEVE THE
CONVERSATION WAS
PERSONAL IN NATURE,
AND NOTHING MORE.

CELL PHONE RECORDS
INDICATE THAT SHE
WAS SPEAKING WITH
SOMEONE JUST PRIOR
TO HER DEATH. NOT
THE JOURNALIST.

DO YOU,
NOW?

SIR... WE
BELIEVE IT'S MORE
THAN LIKELY THAT
ONE OF OUR MEN
SPOOKED HER INTO
RUNNING.

THEN
FIRE THE
BASTARD.

AND FIND
OUT HOW THIS
REPORTER IS INVOLVED,
AND WHO GAVE HIM ACCESS.
YOU SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT
MR. DEVON IN BY NOW. I
DON'T CARE HOW MANY
PULITZERS HE'S
WON.

I WANT
ANSWERS, OR ELSE
ALL OF YOU WILL BE
LOOKING FOR NEW
EMPLOYMENT.

NOW GET
THE HELL
OUT.



SO,
HERE YOU
ARE.



I HEARD
WHAT
HAPPENED.

EVERYONE
HEARD, AND SAW,
AND REPLAYED,
OVER AND OVER,
AGAIN.



YOU
PISS ME OFF,
DAKEN.

ALMOST AS
MUCH AS YOUR
FATHER.



FINE.

BUT PUT
THE BLAME
WHERE IT REALLY
BELONGS. YOU
HAVE A SECURITY
LEAK.



TAKEN
CARE OF, AS
WE SPEAK.

WE HAVE
A BIGGER
PROBLEM.

THE VIDEO
HAS BEEN PULLED
DOWN, BUT IT'S
STILL OUT THERE.
IMPOSSIBLE TO
RETRIEVE EVERY
COPY.

SO WHAT
WE DO IS MAKE
PEOPLE FORGET
IT, OR LOOK AT IT IN
A DIFFERENT LIGHT.
WE NEED TO FIX
YOUR IMAGE,
DAKEN.

YOUR
IMAGE, YOU
MEAN.



YOU LISTEN
TO ME. YOU WILL
DO WHAT IT TAKES
TO FIX THIS.

I'VE
ALREADY SET
EVERYTHING
IN MOTION.





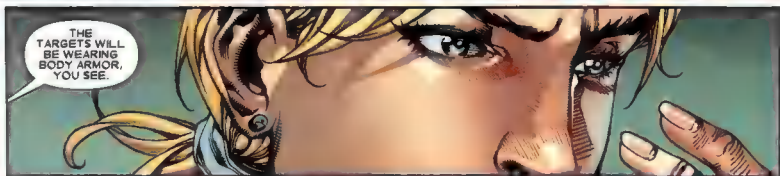
MY GOD,
YOU LOOK
TRAGIC.

CAN
I HELP
YOU?

I HOPE SO.
I'M LOOKING TO
TAKE OUT SEVERAL
TARGETS. CLOSE
RANGE. QUICK,
SUCCESSIVE
SHOTS.

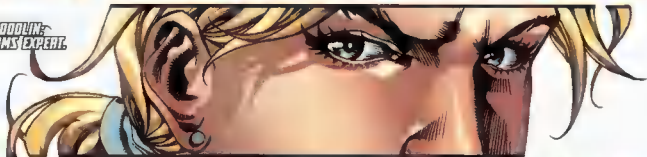
WE CARRY
THREE DIFFERENT
TARGET PISTOLS,
ALL OF WHICH ARE
PERFECTLY
CAPABLE OF--

NO, YOU
MISUNDERSTAND.
I NEED SOMETHING
WITH REAL
FIREPOWER.



THE
TARGETS WILL
BE WEARING
BODY ARMOR,
YOU SEE.

**EMMY DOOLIN:
FIREARMS EXPERT.**



I REALLY
WOULDN'T KNOW
ANYTHING ABOUT...
SOMETHING LIKE
THAT.

OH, I
DISAGREE,
MS. DOOLIN. I THINK
YOU KNOW EVERY-
THING ABOUT
SOMETHING LIKE
THAT.

HOW DO
YOU KNOW
MY NAME?

I'M THE
DIRECTOR OF
HAMMER. I
KNOW A LOT OF
THINGS.

A MORE
IMPORTANT
QUESTION,
EMMY, IS...



JUST
HOW BADLY
DO YOU WANT
TO GET OUT
OF HERE...?

**THE INQUISITOR:
ENHANCED INTERROGATION SPECIALIST.**

I'M A
LITTLE
TEAPOT,
SHORT AND
STOUT...

STOP...
PLEASE.

HERE
IS MY
HANDLE...

...HERE
IS MY
SPOUT.

JUST...
STOP. TELL
ME...TELL ME
WHAT YOU
WANT...

...BUT
DON'T HURT
THEM...

YOU'VE
GOT A STRANGE
IDEA OF FAMILY,
JUDGE JONES.

BUT
WHATEVER
WORKS FOR
YOU WORKS
FOR ■■■.

YOU'RE HEARING A
CASE TOMORROW--
SOMETHING TO DO
WITH A PRISON RACE
RIOT. YOU PREVIOUSLY
REJECTED A PETITION
BY THE PRESS TO HAVE
THE PROCEEDINGS
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
I WANT YOU TO
REVERSE YOUR
DECISION.



THAT'S IT?

YOU PUT ME THROUGH HELL FOR THAT?

WORLD PEACE. SAVING STARVING CHILDREN. FINDING THE CURE FOR CANCER. WOULD THAT HAVE MADE YOU FEEL BETTER?

SOME MEN LIKE PAIN. SOME REALLY LOVE CAUSING IT.

KIND OF TURNS ME ON, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

WON'T... WON'T SAY A WORD. PROMISE.

I KNOW.

BECAUSE THIS IS WHAT I'M LIKE WHEN I'M GENTLE.

YOU SHOULD SEE ME WHEN I REALLY GET GOING...

ARGH!

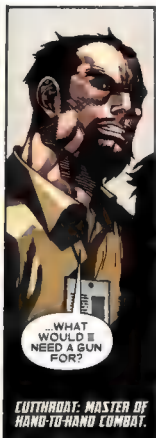
CONSIDER ALL OF THIS A PREVIEW OF WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF YOU TELL ANYONE ABOUT OUR LITTLE CONVERSATION.



I'M TELLING YOU.
IT'S BIZARRE.
JUDGE JONES HATES
THE [REDACTED].

WHATEVER.
I WISH HE HAD
KEPT US OUT. THIS
IS A CRAP TRIAL.
JUST ANOTHER RACIST
NAZI DIRTYBAG. I
COULD BE HOME
WITH MY KID--

OFFICERS,
PLEASE...



...WHAT
WOULD I
NEED A GUN
FOR?

**CUTTHROAT: MASTER OF
HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT.**



**ARYAN:
WHITE SUPREMACIST.**

AS YOUR
ATTORNEY,
I NEED TO BE
PERFECTLY
HONEST.

YOU
ARE SO
SCREWED.

THANKS.
REALLY.

YOU
COULD HAVE
AT LEAST
SHAVED.

HAVE YOU
EVEN READ MY
FILE? LIKE THEY'RE
GONNA LET [REDACTED]
HAVE A RAZOR.

THE STATE
WOULD LIKE TO
CALL ITS FIRST
WITNESS TO
THE STAND.



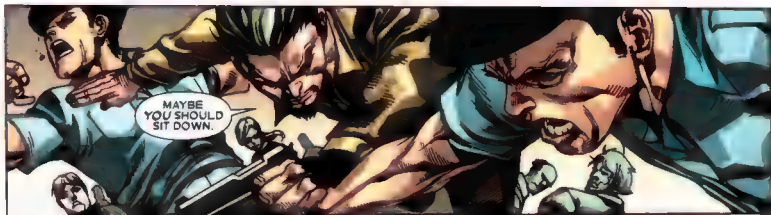
**MOSES MAGNUM:
SUPERHUMAN
SEISMIC WAVE
GENERATION.**

STOP. STOP
LOOKING AT
HIM LIKE THAT.
THE JUDGE WILL
SEE YOU.



SIR, YOU
NEED TO SIT
DOWN--

LET HIM
SEE. I GOT
NOTHING TO
HIDE.





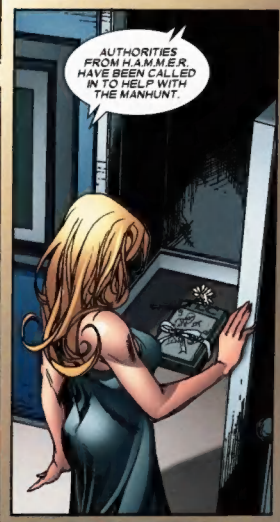


--LATE AFTERNOON ATTACK, WHICH CUT SHORT THE LIVES OF AT LEAST TEN INDIVIDUALS, BOTH IN AND OUT OF THE COURTROOM. MORE THAN THAT WERE LEFT WITH SEVERE INJURIES.

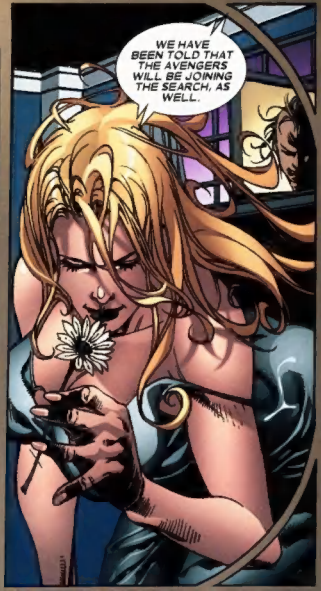
HOLY CRAP



POLICE HAVE STILL NOT IDENTIFIED THE MAN AND WOMAN RESPONSIBLE FOR FREEING MOSES MAGNUM, BUT THEY ARE URGING EXTREME CAUTION.



AUTHORITIES FROM H.A.M.M.E.R. HAVE BEEN CALLED IN TO HELP WITH THE MANHUNT.



WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THE AVENGERS WILL BE JOINING THE SEARCH, AS WELL.



YOU NEED
TO GET LAID,
OSBORN.

--WHITE
VAN SEEN
LEAVING--

--NO
WORD
YET--

--POLITICAL
FALLOUT OF
INCARCERATING A
KNOWN MUTANT
CRIMINAL IN THE
GENERAL
POPULATION--



DON'T
WORRY.
I'M NOT
OFFERING.

YOU NEED
TO TAKE THE
SITUATION MORE
SERIOUSLY. I WENT
TO A GREAT DEAL
OF TROUBLE TO
SET THIS UP.

I KNOW.
APPARENTLY,
PEOPLE DIED
FOR IT.

I SCARE
AN OLD WOMAN,
WHICH YOU CALL
A P.R. DISASTER, BUT
WHEN YOU TRY TO
IMPROVE THE IMAGE
OF YOUR
ORGANIZATION,
TEN PEOPLE
LOSE THEIR
LIVES.

IRONIC,
DON'T YOU
THINK?



YOU DON'T
WANT TO KNOW
WHAT I THINK.

AND I KNOW
YOU REALLY
DON'T GIVE A
DAMN.

BUT MAKE
THIS RIGHT, AND
MAYBE I'LL BE
CONVINCED THAT
YOU'RE WORTHY
ENOUGH TO WEAR
YOUR FATHER'S
UNIFORM.



SNK!T

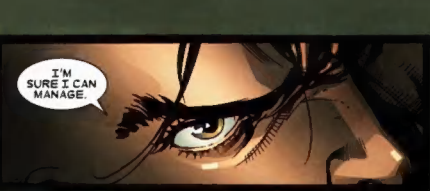
YOU'VE
BEEN BRIEFED
ON MOSES AND
THE OTHERS.

LOWLIFE
HAS-BEENS.
FAILURES.

YOU
THINK YOU
CAN HANDLE
THAT?

DID I
MAKE IT
EASY ENOUGH
FOR YOU?

SNK!T



I'M
SURE I CAN
MANAGE.

I SHOULD
HOPE SO.

WE'LL BE
BROADCASTING
AFTER A SHORT
DELAY THROUGH AN
ANONYMOUS FEED
HOOKED DIRECTLY
INTO NEWSROOM
NETWORKS. NO
SOUND. JUST
IMAGES.

SO. REFRAIN
FROM DEATH. MAKE
IT CLEAN. WE WANT
THE PUBLIC TO SEE
YOU AT YOUR MOST
NOBLE AND
HEROIC.



MAYBE YOU
SHOULD MAKE ME
WEAR A COSTUME
FROM DISNEYLAND,
THEN.



DON'T
WANT TO
SCARE THE
KIDDIES.



REMEMBER,
I'LL BE WATCHING
YOU. EVERYONE WILL
BE WATCHING.



DON'T
I KNOW
IT.



SOMETHING'S
WRONG.



YOU'RE ONLY
FIGURING THAT
OUT NOW?

I KNEW IT
FROM THE START,
BUT I WAS
DESPERATE.

NOW,
NOT SO
MUCH.

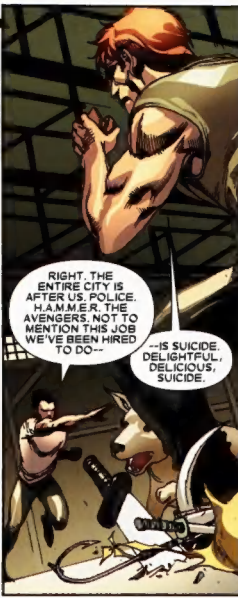
BLOOD
ON YOUR HANDS
WILL DO THAT. YOU
EVER KILL A MAN
BEFORE TODAY?



NO.

BUT THAT'S
NOT WHY I'M
CONCERNED.

I'VE
GOT A BAD
FEELING.



RIGHT. THE
ENTIRE CITY IS
AFTER US. POLICE.
H.A.M.M.E.R. THE
AVENGERS. NOT TO
MENTION THIS JOB
WE'VE BEEN HIRED
TO DO--

--IS SUICIDE.
DELIGHTFUL,
DELICIOUS,
SUICIDE.



NOT
DEAD
YET.

BUT I
WOULD RATHER
BE, IF IT MEANT
GOING BACK TO
PRISON.

FACE IT. YOU
ALL FEEL THE SAME.
OR YOU WOULDN'T
HAVE WOUND UP HERE.
WHATEVER EACH OF US
HAS GOT BEHIND US
MAKES THIS CRAP
LOOK GOOD.